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Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 SCA-01 DHA-05 SCS-05 H-02
MMO-04 /047 W
----------022683 240122Z /62
R 231556Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6189

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 06920

FOR ACTING SECRETARY FROM CHARGE

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: CASC
SUJ: PROTECTIVE CONSULAR SERVICES

REF: STATE 189686

1. IN CHILE, THE NORMAL PROBLEMS OF PROTECTION AND WELFARE HAVE AN ADDED DIMENSION BECAUSE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. ACCORDINGLY, PROTECTION CASES HER HAVE FOR SEVERAL YEARS INVOLVED THE CHIEF OF MISSION AND OTHER SENIOR OFFICERS AS WELL AS THE CONSULAR SECTION. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE TAKEN ADDITIONAL STEPS SUCH AS COUNTRY TEAM DISCUSSION OF VIRTUALLY ALL PROTECTION AND WELFARE CASES AND THE ASSIGNMENT OF EVERY OFFICER IN THE MISSSION (CIVILIAN OR MILITARY) TO A TOUR AS DUTY OFFICER AS A MEANS OF SENSITIZING ALL OF US TO THIS PROBLEM AREA.

2.AS A FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER FOR 18 YEARS AND AS AN OFFICER OF THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE ASSOCIATION FOR FOUR YEARS, IT HAS ALWAYS CONCERNED ME THAT THE ONLY PROTECTION AND WELFAGR CASES ON WHICH WE RECEIVE CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC SCRUTINY ARE THE NEGATIVE ONES. THE SUCCESS-FUL CASES WITH HAPPY OUTCOMES (THE BAST, VAST MAJORITY) ARE FORGOTTEN OR NEVER NOTICED. FOR THIS REASON, WHEN
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CHAIRMAN FASCELL WAS HERE RECENTLY AS A MEMBER OF CODEL YATRON, I GAVE HIM A COPY OF THE LETTER QUOTED BELOW. THE AUTHOR OF THE LETTER AGREED THAT I COULD USE IT PUBLICLY WITHOUT INCLUDING HIS NAME. PERHAPS THE DEPART-MENT COULD MAKE SOME USE OF THIS SINCERE--EVEN TOUCHING-- EXPRESSION OF THANKS. THE JOB DONE BY OUR CONSULAR OFFICER IS ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE OUTSTANDING WORK OF OUR

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CONSULAR PEOPLE OVER 99 PERCENT OF THE TIME.

3. "DEAR MR. BOYATT,

" I AM WRITING THIS SHORT LETTER FOR THE SPECIFIC
PURPOSE OF EXPRESSING MY GRATITUDE TO THE AMERICAN CONSU-
LATE HERE IN CHILE. I WISH FIRST OF ALL TO EXPRESS
THIS GRATITUDE IN A GENERAL SENSE AS I AM QUITE SURE
THERE ARE MANY OFFICERS WHO TOOK PART IN BEING OF SOME
AID TO ME WHOM I HAVE NEVER MET PERSONALLY.

" I HAVE BEEN IN CHILE FOR SHORTLY MORE THAN SIX
YEARS, THE LAST THREE OF WHICH I SPENT IN VARIOUS CHILEAN
PRISONS. I AM NOW AT LIBERTY UNDER CHILEAN LAW BUT MUST
REMAIN IN THE COUNTRY FOR TWO MORE YEARS AS A CONDITION
OF PROBATION. IT WAS DURING THE TIME OF MY IMPRISON-
MENT THAT MY CONTACT WITH THE CONSULATE BECAME NOT
ONLY NECESSARY, BUT OF SUCH A NATURE AS TO PROVIDE FOR
ME A MORAL LIFE-PRESERVER. AS THIS CONTACT WAS ALWAYS
BETWEEN PEOPLE, I WISH ALSO TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO REAL PEOPLE.

"TO MR. JOHN M. HALL I AM GRATEFUL FOR THE CLEAR
AND PRECISE WAY MY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AMERICAN CON-
SULATE WAS EXPLAINED TO ME. IN THAT SUCH EXPLANATIONS
ARE NECESSARILY PROFESSIONAL, MR. HALL DID NOT FAIL TO
PRESENT HIMSELF AS A HUMAN BEING. AT THAT PARTICULAR
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TIME IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT FOR ME.

"TO MS. GWEN C. CLARE I AM GRATEFUL FOR THE NUMEROUS
CONTACTS THAT WERE MADE BETWEEN MYSELF AND THE CONSULATE
DURING THIS PAST YEAR. ALSO, I AM QUITE SURE THAT HER
PROFESSIONAL WORK AS PERTAINING TO MY CASE HERE IN
CHILE HAS BEEN A MAJOR FACTOR IN MY BEING RELEASED. I
WISH TO THANK HER FOR NOT LETTING THEM JUST FORGET ABOUT
ME AS AT TIMES I FEEL THEY ARE INCLINED TO DO: "THEY"
IN THIS SENSE BEING THE CHILEAN AUTHORITIES.

" TO MR. STEPHEN THOMPSON I WISH TO EXPRESS MY THANK
YOU'S FOR HIS HAVING HELPED ME IN A VERY SPECIAL WAY
LAST YEAR. WHILE VISITING ME IN TALCAHUANO MR THOMPSON
HELPED ME BOTH IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS CONSULAR
OFFICER AND AS A FELLOW COUNTRYMAN WITH THE HUMAN ELEMENT
AND CONTACT THAT I HAVE NOTICED ASCHARACTERISTIC IN
MY CONTACTS WITH THIS OFFICE.

"TO MR. EDWARD BEFFEL I WISH TO BE ON RECORD AS TO
MY EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE FOR NOT ONLY WHAT HE HAS
DONE BUT WHAT HE IS DOING AND UNDOUBTEDLY WILL CONTINUE

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TO DO. WHILE NEVER FAILING TO REPRESENT THE U.S. CONSULATE IN A VERY CLEAR, PRECISE AND PROFESSIONAL MANNER, HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH ME HAVE HELPED IN MY READJUSTING TO AN ALMOST UNTENABLE SITUATION IN WHICH I FIND MYSELF NOW. FOR THIS I CONSIDER MR. BEFFEL A FRIEND.

"I WISH ALSO TO EXPRESS MY THANK YOU TO MR. HOWARD G. NEUBERG OF USIS IN CONCEPCION WHO HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE OF EXCEPTIONAL HELP TO ME.

"IN CLOSING I WOULD LIKE TO OFFER AN UNSOLICITED OPINION KNOWING THAT ITS VALUE IS NEXT TO NOTHING AS ARE ALL SUCH OPINIONS, AND RIGHTLY SO. I DO THIS NOT SO MUCH FOR WHAT VALUE MY OPINION MAY HAVE FOR YOU IN UNCLASSIFIED

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A PROFESSIONAL SENSE, BUT MORE FOR MYSELF IN HAVING EXPRESSED IT AS ANOTHER WAY OF SHOWING MY GRATITUDE.

" I FEEL THAT THE FIVE OFFICERS I HAVE MENTIONED HAVE CONSISTENTLY MAINTAINED A HIGH AND BRIGHT LEVEL OF PROFESSIONAL INTEGRITY AND AT THE SAME TIME WERE ABLE TO MAKE HUMAN CONTACT. IN MY OPINION THIS QUALITY SHOULD BE A STANDARD FOR ALL PUBLIC OFFICERS WHO TAKE UPON THEMSELVES THE OFTEN DIFFICULT TASKS OF THEIR RESPECTVE CAREERS.

"IN SHORT AND WITHOUT MORE RHETORIC, THANK YOU. SINCERELY."
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Sent Date: 23-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: CASC, CGEN, CI, US
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